GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:83 ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013 POLLUTION IN GANGA BY INDUSTRIAL UNITS Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Sugumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the water of Ganga river is extremely polluted due to the discharge of untreated sewage and hazardous industrial effluents from Kanpur to Diamond Harbour in Kolkata;

(b) if so, the detail thereof along with the punitive action taken by the Government against the erring units; and

(c) the amount spent on cleaning of Ganga through Ganga Basin Scheme and Mission Clean Ganga during each of the last three years and the current year, year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 83 to be answered on Monday, the 4th March, 2013 on "Pollution in Ganga by Industrial Units" by Shri Sugumar K. and Shri Sudarshan Bhagat

(a) The water quality of river Ganga is monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) from Gangotri (Uttarakhand) to Diamond Harbour (Kolkata) at 57 locations, out of which 38 monitoring locations are between Kanpur and Diamond Harbour. The long term assessment of water quality of river Ganga indicates that;

i. Dissolved Oxygen is meeting the criteria at almost all the monitoring locations from Kanpur downstream to Diamond Harbour.

ii. The stretch of river Ganga in segment of Bihar is largely within the criteria limit with respect to Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD).

iii. The stretch from Kanpur to Trighat in Uttar Pradesh and from Dakshineshwar to Garden Reach in West Bengal exceeds the criteria limit with respect to BOD.

iv. Faecal Coliform is exceeding the criteria at almost all the monitoring locations from Kanpur downstream to Diamond Harbour.

v. Pollution level in terms of BOD at both upstream and downstream of Kanpur city has been reported high after joining of the rivers Ramganga and Kali-East at Kannuaj (upstream of Kanpur), which discharges untreated/partially treated effluent from various industries such as tanneries, Pulp & Paper, Sugar and Distillery.

(b) CPCB has identified 764 Grossly Polluting Industries (GPI) in 5 states on the main stem of Ganga and its tributaries Kali- East and Ramganga. Out of 764 GPI, 387 have been inspected by CPCB from August 2011 to January 2013 and action has been taken against non-complying industries under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(c) Since inception of the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) programme, 53 schemes in 43 towns in Ganga States have been sanctioned at a total cost of Rs. 2600 crore, out of which, Rs. 805.17 crore has been released so far. A total expenditure of Rs. 557.60 crore, in addition to expenditure under the Ganga Action Plan has been incurred till December, 2012 for implementation of the projects. A statement giving total expenditure incurred on river Ganga in the last three years and current financial year is as follow:

Rupees in crores

2009-10 50.30 2010-11 113.64 2011-12 263.36 2012-13 247.18

Total 674.48